



palm springs  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



# Airport Master Plan Update

PRESENTED BY PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT • October 2024

# What is an Airport Master Plan?

Federally required document to help an airport:

- Plan strategically for the future
- Identify new projects to support long-term growth and safety



**This is only a plan.** Each major project identified in the master plan will have to be separately approved, funded, and comply with state and federal environmental requirements.

# Why We Need an Airport Master Plan

Planning now to meet future demand.

The Palm Springs International Airport is the gateway to the Coachella Valley. It needs to plan for the future in order to:

- Preserve iconic elements of the airport
- Create better passenger experience
- Accommodate for future growth
- Comply with latest airport safety requirements
- Begin new sustainability initiatives

Photo: Architect Donald Wexler in front of the new Palm Springs Wexler Terminal, 1966



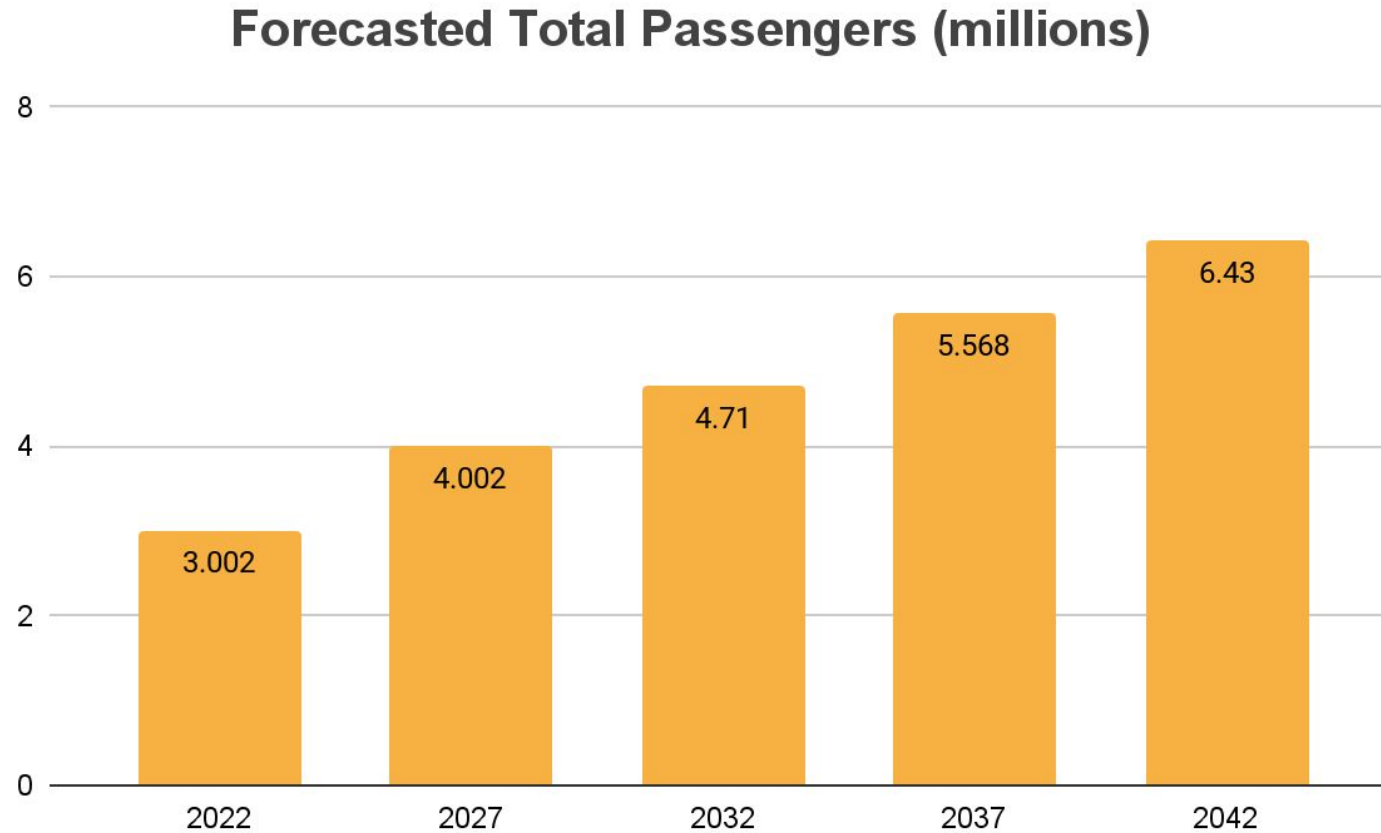
# Delivering the Flexibility We Need

- Create customs and border patrol to accept **international flights**
  - From areas such as, Mexico, Canada, and Europe
- Increase capacity of baggage claim for **faster processing of checked bags**
- Increase **gate capacity**
- Increase **space** in terminals; more seats, more space to spread out
- **Improve rent a car** experience



**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**

# Airport is Rapidly Increasing in Popularity



Historical data from Airport records, FAA ATADS and TAF, T100 data, and forecasts by Unison Consulting, Inc

# Tourism is Surging, Residential Boom Continues

Between 2017 and 2022, tourism in Greater Palm Springs grew:

↑ **VISITORS**  
4% increase

Between 2021 and 2024, Coachella Valley grew:

↑ **RESIDENTS**  
5% increase



Source: 2017 and 2022 Economic Impact of Tourism in Greater Palm Springs, Prepared by Tourism Economics, Esri, [US Census Population Projections](#), [California Economic Forecast](#)

# Economic Impact of a Tourist



**\$9 BILLION**  
TOURISM'S TOTAL  
ECONOMIC  
IMPACT



**14.4 MILLION**  
ANNUAL DAY  
AND OVERNIGHT  
VISITORS



**50,936**  
TOTAL JOBS  
SUSTAINED BY  
TOURISM



**1 IN 4**  
LOCAL JOBS  
SUPPORTED  
BY TOURISM

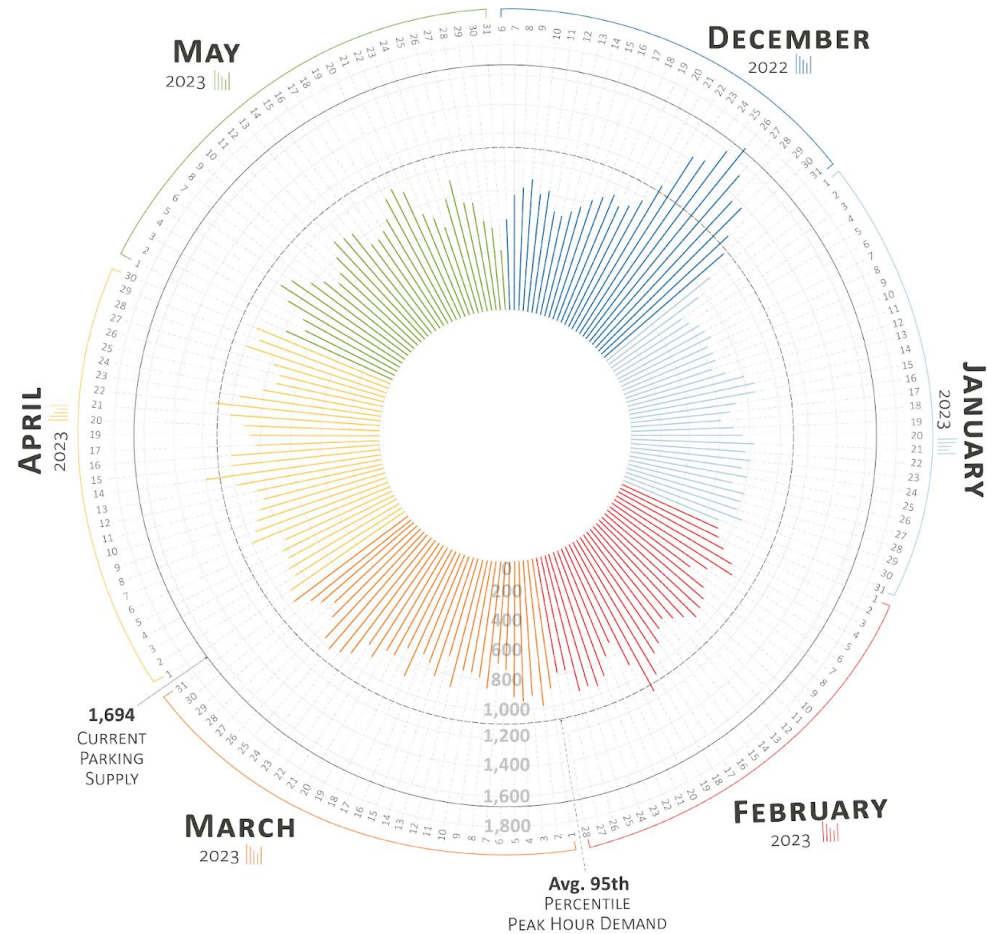
# Parking Demand

Parking needs today versus 2042.

↑ **Public Spaces**  
1,694 increasing to 2,711

↑ **Rental Car Spaces**  
2,295 increasing to 3,693

↑ **Employee Spaces**  
290 increasing to 610



Source: Walker Consultants, 2023



# Master Plan Process

A methodical approach to ensure the best outcome.



← Public Outreach →



# Planning Considerations – What We Heard

Stakeholder feedback that helped shape the alternatives.

Maintain primary access at Tahquitz and El Cielo

Predominantly boarded by jetway

Bono Concourse walls can be constraining

Wexler Building is the only facility that must be preserved

Consider walking distances



## Likes Include:

Quaintness

Charm

Ease of Use

Mountain Views

Hybrid Indoor/Outdoor Spaces

Geometric Expression of Bono

# Alternative 1: North Site Rental Car Center

Figure x-x: North Site Alternative 1

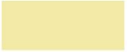




Source: Gensler and Mead & Hunt, 2023

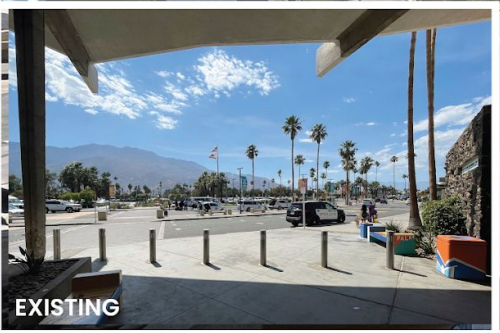
# Terminal Renderings



**Legend**

	Terminal		Rental Car Center
	Gates		

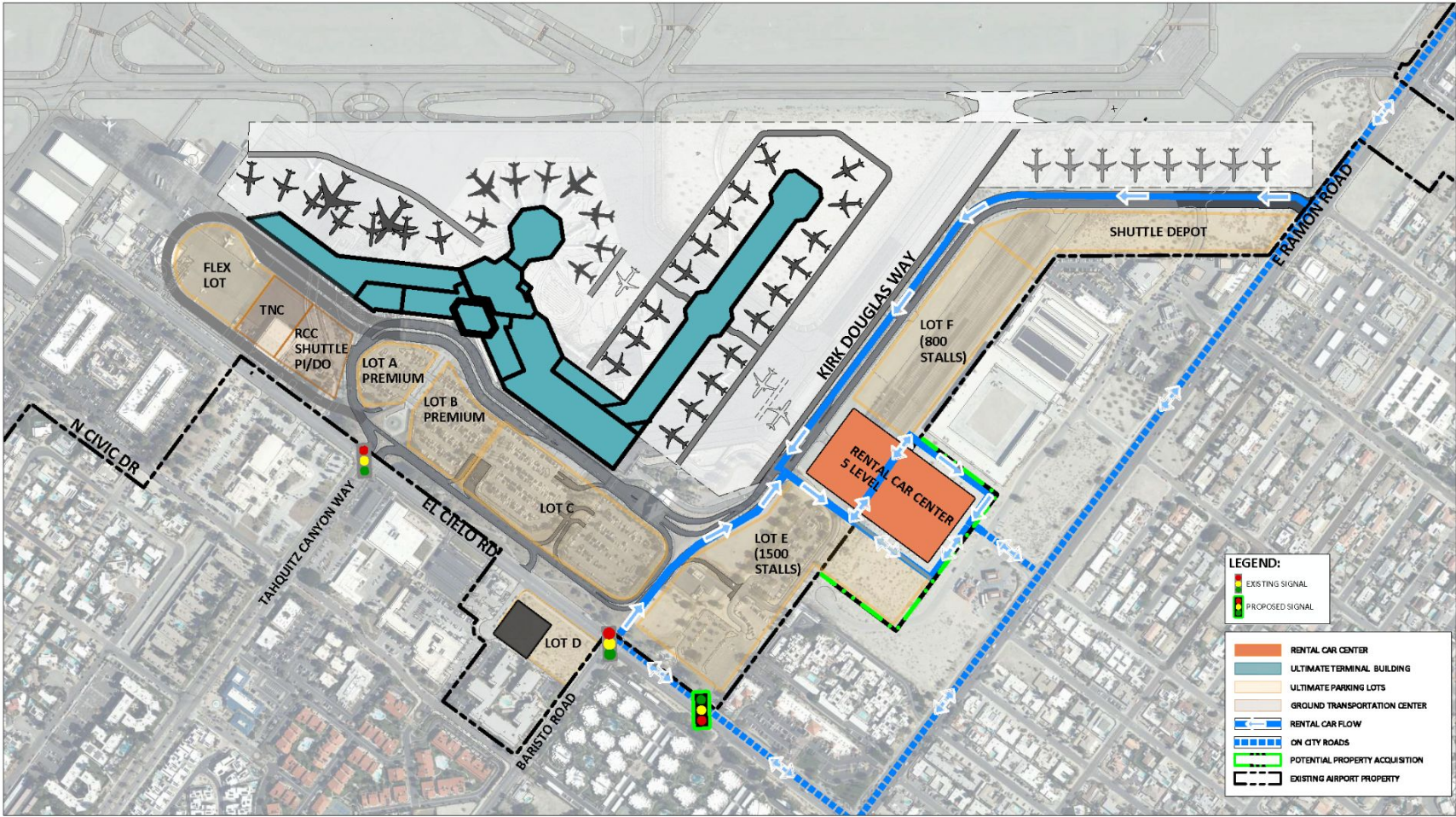
# View with Rental Car Center and Terminal Expansion



EXISTING

# Alternative 2: South Site Rental Car Center

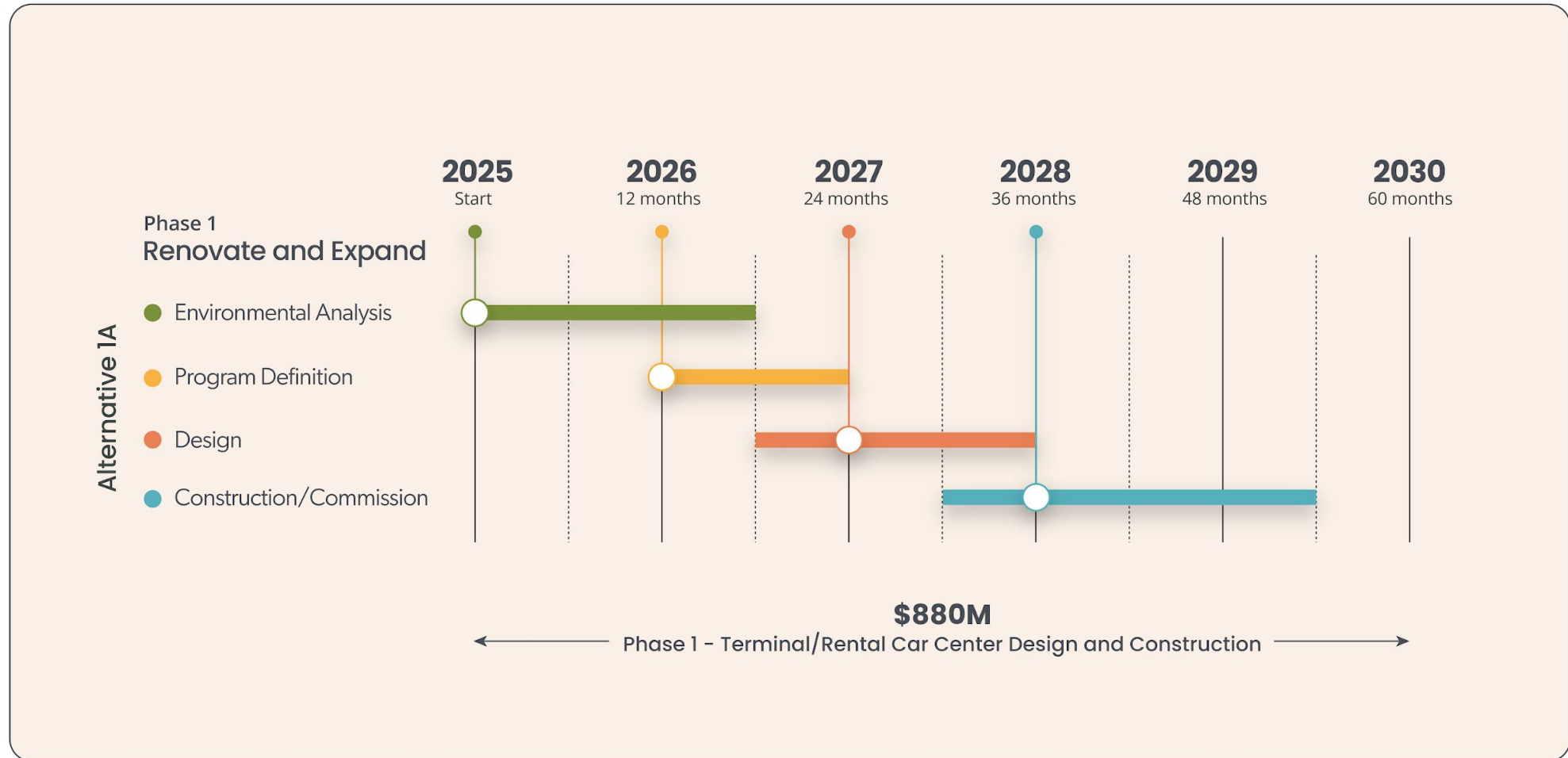
Figure x-x: South Site Alternative 2 - Rental Car Flow



Source: Gensler and Mead & Hunt, 2023

# Estimated Terminal Program Schedule & Cost

A current timeline for phase 1 terminal development.



# Sustainability is at the Heart of the Master Plan

Improved efficiencies will minimize the use of resources.



- The Airport Master Plan will align with existing City sustainability policies
- Use of solar for electricity generation
- Infrastructure improvements to support aircraft and electric vehicles
- Roadway and taxiway improvements to minimize emissions
- Continuing resource-saving efforts like low-water landscaping and recycling programs



# Mitigating Airplane Noise

Minimizing impact and being a responsible community member.



1. **Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990:** Prevents all US airports from imposing restrictions on flight schedules, number of flights or noise limits
2. **More Quiet, Modern Aircraft:** Airplane manufacturers are building quieter planes
3. **Encouraging 'Good Neighbor' Practices:** We work closely with our military partners, asking them to voluntarily adjust their operations to reduce noise.
4. **Voice Your Concern:**
  - a. **PSP Airport Commission Noise Committee:** meets quarterly
  - b. **FAA:** 424-405-8020
  - c. **PSP's [Noise Comment Form](#)** on PSPs website
  - d. **Other airports:** Contact Jacqueline Cochran Regional or Bermuda Dunes directly

# How Airports Are Funded

PSP does not use local taxes.

The airport and its major projects are funded by airport revenues, user fees, and federal grants.

Every cup of coffee, airline ticket, and rental car sold at the airport funds PSP and its projects.

The airport does not rely on local taxes to operate.



# Thank you.

[PalmSpringsAirportMasterPlan.com](http://PalmSpringsAirportMasterPlan.com)



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# NEW SERVICE



**FRONTIER**

**SFO  
Denver**



**DELTA**

**JFK**



**UNITED**

**Washington Dulles**



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# NEW SERVICE



**PORTER**

**Toronto**



**ALASKA**

**JFK**



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# NEW CONCESSIONS

## Cactus to Clouds



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# NEW CONCESSIONS

## Nine Cities



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# NEW CONCESSIONS



## Las Casuelas & Coachella Valley Coffee



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# NEW CONCESSIONS

Hey Joshua  
Las Palmas Oasis  
InMotion  
Uptown Essentials



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# NEW IMPROVEMENTS

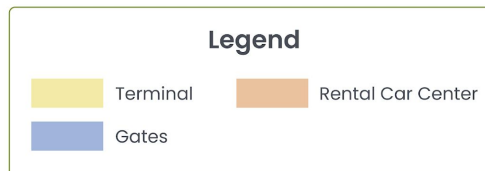


**PSP Awarded \$503,212 FAA  
Grant for Zero Emissions  
Vehicle Replacement**



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# Addendum 1.1: Terminal Rendering 1



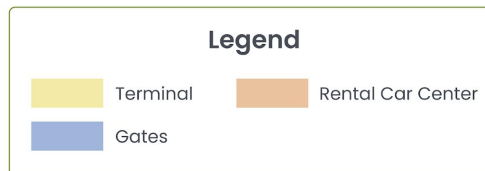
# Addendum 1.2: Terminal Rendering 2



**Legend**

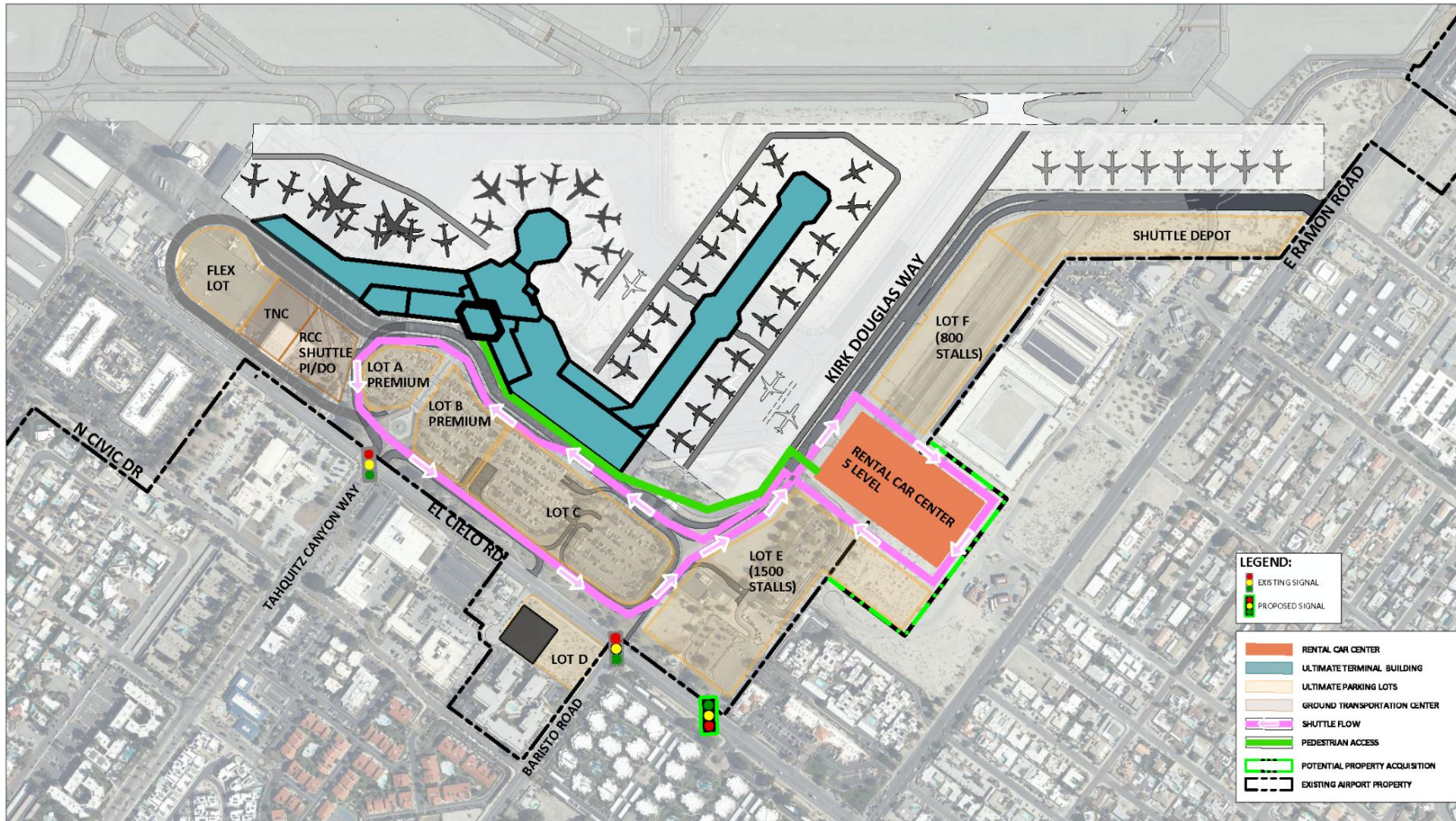
	Terminal		Rental Car Center
	Gates		

# Addendum 1.3: Terminal Rendering 3



# Addendum 2.1: South Site Rental Car Center

Figure x-x: South Site Alternative 2 - Rental Car Shuttle Flow



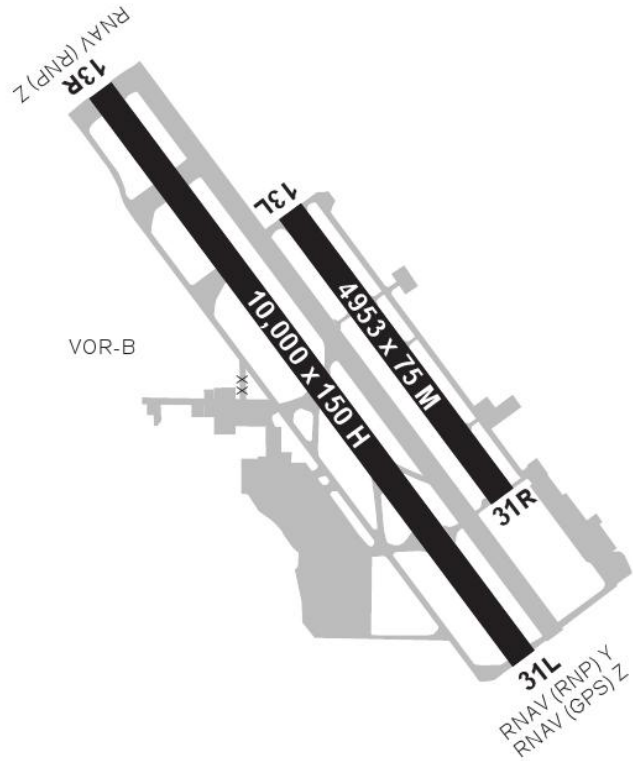
Source: Gensler and Mead & Hunt, 2023



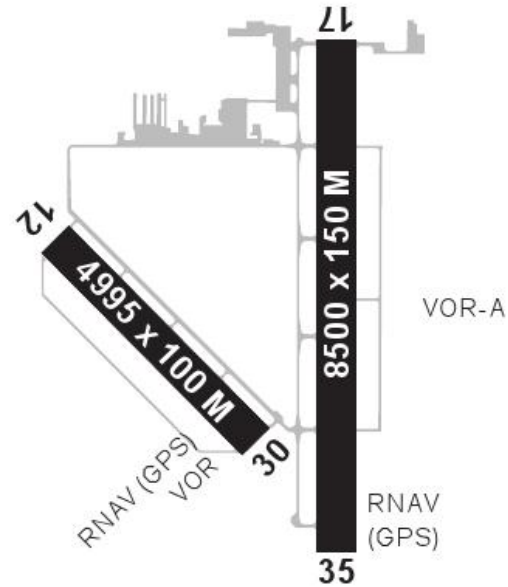
# Why Not Thermal?

Investing in the future of Coachella Valley

Palm Springs (PSP)



Jacqueline Cochran Regional Airport (TRM)



Thermal does not have the:

- Runway length
- Infrastructure (flight control tower, baggage claim, terminal capacity)
- Wind conditions

to host a regional commercial airport.

**It would take decades of planning and development and billions of dollars to develop Thermal as the primary airport for the Coachella Valley.**